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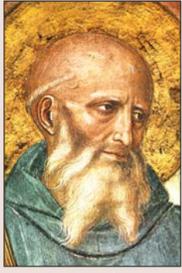
BI-WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE DIOCESE OF ERIE

June 21, 2009

Church Calendar

Events of the local, American and universal church

Feast days



St. Benedict



Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha

June 24	Nativity of St. John the Baptist
June 29	St. Peter & St. Paul
July 3	St. Thomas
July 11	St. Benedict
July 14	Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
July 15	St. Bonaventure
July 16	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
July 22	St. Mary Magdalene
July 25	St. James

Peter's Pence collection - June 20-21

Every year in June, near the feast of Ss. Peter and Paul, the church throughout the world takes up the annual Peter's Pence collection to support the charitable works of the Holy Father as he responds to some of the world's most urgent needs.

The Peter's Pence collection provides critical funds for emergency relief for those suffering from war, oppression, disease and natural disaster.

This collection will be taken up in parishes throughout the Erie Diocese during the weekend of June 20-21.



St. Paul JUBILEE 2008-2009

Conclusion of the Year of St. Paul - June 27-28

Bishop Donald Trautman will celebrate a diocesan Mass for the closing of the Year of St. Paul on Sunday, June 28 at St. Paul Parish in Erie at 10 a.m.

Bishop Trautman has also transferred the solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul in the Diocese of Erie, for this year only, to June 27-28 so that the closing of the Year of St. Paul may be celebrated throughout the diocese during Sunday Masses on that weekend.

The faithful who participate in the solemn closing of the Year of St. Paul may obtain a plenary indulgence for themselves or for the faithful departed, under the usual conditions (sacramental confession within 10 days before or after, reception of Holy Communion, prayer for the intentions of the pope and having a firm desire to sin no more).

Fathers by the Numbers

Father's Day has been celebrated nationally since 1972 when President Richard Nixon signed the public law that made it a permanent observance.

64.3 million fathers in the U.S.

5.6 million single fathers

140,000 stay-at-home dads

71% children younger than six ate dinner with their father every night.

6 average times children ages 3-5 were read to by their fathers in the past week



Numbers are gleaned from 2008 and 2008 census data. Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

'FEED MY SHEEP'

Hoffman, Miller ordained to the priesthood

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife

ERIE - On June 12, two young men from the Erie Diocese professed their love for Christ and his church and answered the call in the evening's Gospel to "Feed my sheep."

Bishop Donald Trautman ordained Daniel Hoffman and John Miller to the priesthood in front of a crowd of family, friends, diocesan priests and guests at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

Guests from Hoffman's home parish of Our Lady of Peace in Erie attended the ceremony, as well as relatives from Kentucky and California. Two busloads of well wishers came from St.

Marys, where Hoffman served his diaconate assignment. Miller's guests came from his home parish of St. Michael in Greenville along with family and friends from the Pittsburgh area.

The evening's Gospel was from John 21:15-17, which describes the third time Jesus was revealed to his disciples after being raised from the dead. Peter was distressed after Jesus asked him three times, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

"... and he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' (Jesus) said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'"

After the Gospel, Father Michael Kesicki, rector of St. Mark Seminary, presented the



Bishop Donald Trautman poses with newly ordained priests Father John Miller (left) and Father Daniel Hoffman following ordination June 12 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

candidates, who were then elected by the bishop. The gathered assembly then gave its consent through an enthusiastic round of applause,

signifying approval of having these men receive holy orders.

Bishop Trautman then delivered his homily to the two

candidates, who were seated directly in front of his chair.

During their examination,

See PRIESTS, page 3

Clergy appointments



The Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, STD, SSL, Bishop of Erie, announces the following clergy appointments:



Father Thomas Brooks, appointed pastor of St. Jude the Apostle Parish, Erie, for a term of six years. Effective July 8, 2009.



Father Chris Hamlett, appointed pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish, Erie, for a term of six years. Effective July 8, 2009.



Father Philip Oriole, appointed pastor of St. Lawrence Parish, Albion, for a term of six years. Effective July 8, 2009.



Father David Perry, appointed pastor of St. Mary Parish, Frenchville, and its mission churches of Ss. Peter and Paul, Grassflat, and St. Severin, Drifting, for a term of six years. Effective July 8, 2009.

Father Samuel Bungo, appointed pastor of St. Charles Parish, New Bethlehem, and its mission church of St. Nicholas, Crates, for a term of six years. Effective July 8, 2009.

Father Daniel Hoffman, appointed parochial vicar at St. Michael Parish, Greenville, for a term of three years. Effective July 8, 2009.

Father James Campbell, appointed temporary parochial administrator of St. Eulalia Parish, Coudersport, and its mission church of St. Augustine, Austin. Effective July 8, 2009.

Msgr. Henry Kriegel, appointed temporary parochial administrator of Mount Calvary Parish, Erie. Effective July 8, 2009.

Father Joseph Campbell, appointed to the faculty of Elk County Catholic High School, St. Marys, with residence at St. Leo Magnus Parish, Ridgway, for a term of six years. Effective July 8, 2009.



Father William Laska, appointed pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Brookville, and its mission church of St. Dominic, Sigel, for a term of six years. Effective July 8, 2009.

Father John Chaplin, appointed senior associate at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Clearfield, for a term of six years. Effective July 8, 2009.

Father Ted Marconi, reappointed pastor of St. Leo Magnus Parish, Ridgway, for a term of six years.



Father Joseph Czarkowski, appointed pastor of Holy Rosary Parish, Erie, for a term of six years. Effective July 8, 2009.

Father John Miller, appointed parochial vicar at St. Peter Cathedral, Erie, and adjunct faculty member at Cathedral Preparatory School, Erie, for a term of three years. Effective July 8, 2009.

Father James O'Hara, reappointed pastor of Our Mother of Sorrows Parish, Erie, for a term of six years.

Father Philip Pinczewski, reappointed pastor of St. Callistus Parish, Kane, for a term of six years.

Msgr. Gerald Ritchie, reappointed pastor of Our Lady of Mercy Parish, Harborcreek, for a term of six years.

Father Paul Siebert, reappointed pastor of St. Mark Parish, Emporium, for a term of six years.

Msgr. Richard Siefer, reappointed pastor of St. Catherine of Sienna Parish, DuBois, for a term of six years.

Msgr. Richard Sullivan, reappointed pastor of St. Andrew Parish, Erie.

Msgr. Thomas Snyderwine, reappointed pastor of St. Luke Parish, Erie, for a term of six years.

Msgr. Bernard Urbaniak, reappointed pastor of St. Stanislaus Parish, Erie, for a term of six years.

Father David Wilson, reappointed pastor of Holy Rosary Parish, Johnsonburg, for a term of six years.

THE CHURCH TODAY

Few surprises, but some glimmers of hope in new U.S. church statistics

By Nancy Frazier O'Brien
Catholic News Service

WASHINGTON — Statistically, there are few surprises in the 2009 Official Catholic Directory.

The number of patients served in Catholic hospitals and the number of clients assisted by Catholic charitable agencies went up. Fewer baptisms, first Communion, confirmations and marriages were performed in Catholic churches last year. The number of Catholic parishes and elementary schools in the U.S. continues to decline.

But here and there, there are signs of hope in the statistical summary that is designed to present a snap-



shot of what the U.S. Catholic Church looked like on Jan. 1, 2009.

The totals for priests,

permanent deacons and diocesan seminarians each See STATISTICS, page 2

Through the eyes of faith

Optometrist Dr. Doug Villella shares his personal commitment to the Third World in the July/August 2009 issue

of *Faith* magazine, scheduled to arrive in homes of the Erie Diocese before the Fourth of July. What started out as a few mission trips has grown into a wild, faith-filled ride. Also on tap: a feature on weekly adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the DuBois area Catholic community; a special report on the permanent diaconate program; and Bishop Trautman talks about the faith of Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati.



July/August 2009 issue of *Faith* magazine

If you are registered in a parish and do not receive your complimentary copy of *Faith* magazine, contact Brenda Williams, circulation manager, at 814.824.1168 or e-mail BWilliams@ErieRCD.org.

IN THE U.S.

■ **Pro-life advocates universally condemned the May 31 murder of a Kansas abortion doctor**, with officials from several U.S. right-to-life groups saying such extreme acts only hurt the pro-life cause. "We condemn this lawless act of violence," said Charmaine Yoest, president of Americans United for Life. "The foundational right to life that our work is dedicated to extends to everyone. Whoever is responsible for this reprehensible violence must be brought to justice under the law." Dr. George Tiller, 67, of Wichita, Kan., was fatally shot while serving as an usher at the city's Reformation Lutheran Church during morning services, according to The Associated Press. Speaking on behalf of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Cardinal Justin Rigali of Philadelphia, chairman of the bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities, expressed profound regret upon learning of Tiller's shooting death.

■ **The U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations has set up a Web site** to mark the Year for Priests, a worldwide celebration from June 19 of this year to June 19, 2010. Pope Benedict XVI chose to begin the Year for Priests on the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a day of prayer for the sanctification of all priests. The pope also designated St. John Vianney as the universal patron of all priests on the 150th anniversary of the saint's death. The saint, who is also known as the Cure of Ars, is the patron of parish priests. The Year for Priests Web site is www.usccb.org/yearforpriests. The site includes the pope's message for the occasion and the announcement of the plenary indulgence in conjunction with the celebration. The site also offers specially commissioned prayers for priests and laity.

AROUND THE WORLD

■ **The beatification of Pope John Paul II may be delayed** as the Vatican seeks more documentation regarding his almost 27 years as pope, Italian newspapers reported in late May. According to the newspaper *La Stampa*, the chief holdup regards hundreds of letters he wrote before and after his election to Wanda Poltawska, a longtime friend and adviser

to the pope. Meanwhile, the newspaper *Il Giornale*, reported that a commission of theologians meeting in mid-May decided the information contained in the official "positio," or position paper, was not complete enough. In particular, the newspaper cited the fact that Cardinal Angelo Sodano, secretary of state under Pope John Paul, and Cardinal Leonardo Sandri, his deputy at the time, had not given testimony in the case. *La Stampa* published an interview with Poltawska June 1 in which she said she met Father Karol Wojtyla, the future pope, in 1950 when she was looking for a confessor and spiritual director to guide her in the long process of recovering from her internment as a political prisoner in the Nazis' Ravensbruck concentration camp, where medical experiments were performed on prisoners.

■ **The Catholic Church in England and Wales has lost a legal battle** to retain its few remaining adoption agencies. The government's Charity Tribunal ruled June 1 that the Catholic Care social services agency of the Diocese of Leeds, England, could not continue as an adoption agency unless it assessed same-sex couples as potential adopters and foster parents. A Leeds diocesan spokesman said in a June 2 statement that "it seems likely that the charities will need to close their adoption services and a flag-ship service will be lost." "We are concerned about the possible impact this will have on potential adoptive parents and children," the spokesman added. The agency, which finds new families for about 20 children each year, wanted to continue to serve the church as a diocesan charity.

PEOPLE OF FAITH

■ **An energetic convert to Catholicism who guided the church in Madagascar through extreme difficulties** was beatified in the country's capital. Brother Raffaele Rafiringa, born in the African

country in 1856, was declared "blessed" in a ceremony June 7 in Antananarivo by Archbishop Angelo Amato, prefect of the Congregation for Saints' Causes. Archbishop Amato traced the remarkable history of Blessed Raffaele who, as a lay Christian Brother, found himself at the helm of the fledgling church organization when the country's ruling family expelled ordained missionaries. During the exile of the priests from 1883-86, Blessed Raffaele's leadership "not only did not damage Catholics, but actually increased their number," Archbishop Amato explained. When the missionaries were allowed to return, he said, they found a flourishing Catholic network: schools to prepare catechists to teach in the countryside, retreats organized for missionary sisters and excellent schools for children. On Sundays Blessed Raffaele directed a very well attended Liturgy of the Word.

■ **An English religious sister who was jailed as a heretic by the same pope who sanctioned Galileo** has moved a step closer to sainthood after Vatican theologians ruled that she lived a life of heroic virtue. Sister Mary Ward, the founder the Congregation of Jesus and the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, known as the Loreto Sisters, may be declared venerable some time in 2010, the relator for her cause, Jesuit Father Peter Gumpel, said. The unanimous vote by a panel of theological consultants in late May also was confirmed June 4 by Father Gumpel and welcomed by Sister Gemma Simmonds, an English member of the Congregation of Jesus. "Mary Ward had a vision of what women could do in the church and in society not only decades but centuries before anyone else saw it," said Sister Gemma, a lecturer in theology at the University of London's Heythrop College. "She had a vision of the equality of men and women before God and a vision of the capacity of women to do good and to work for the kingdom of God," she said.



By the Way...

Linda Kuhn and Audrey McLaughlin will officially begin their duties July 1 as the new co-directors of the Associates Program of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Northwestern Pennsylvania. SSJ Associates are people without evangelical vows who share the spirit and spirituality of the Sisters of St. Joseph. The more than 200 associates in the Erie Diocese live the mission of the congregation by participating in its spiritual life, community and ministry.



Jason Koshinski

As co-directors, Kuhn and McLaughlin are responsible for recruiting and training of new associates, as well as providing assistance to those involved in the program.

Kuhn, an SSJ Associate since 2001, has been an administrative assistant for the diocese's Department of Religious Education for 20 years. Her final day in that capacity was June 12.

"How do you say that somebody's work has been invaluable to you?" Joe Streett, director of the diocese's Religious Education/Adult Religious Education Office, says of Kuhn. "She has been an integral part of the development of this office during the past 20 years. We wouldn't have been able to create many of the services we offer without her assistance."

Harborcreek Youth Services, an affiliate of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Erie, is expanding its ministry with a new foster parent program. HYS is looking for short-term foster parents in Erie and Crawford counties. The children who will be placed in these homes will be from the Office of Children and Youth. For more information about foster care through Harborcreek Youth Services, call 814.866.7664. Harborcreek Youth Services' mission is to help youth and families build positive futures within a Christian environment that celebrates individuality and strengthens community.

At 82, Pope Benedict XVI is showing no signs of slowing down. With another encyclical on the horizon, the Holy Father also has an expanding travel calendar. He will visit the Czech Republic in late September, participating in the nation's Sept. 28 observance of the feast of St. Wenceslas, a 10th-century Czech prince and martyr. During the Sept. 26-28 trip, the pope will visit Prague, Brno and Stara Boleslav, the town where St. Wenceslas was murdered by his brother in 935 to protest his embrace of Christianity.

Church-state relations in the Czech Republic have been tense over demands for the restitution of Catholic properties confiscated under communist rule.

FaithLife will skip its next regularly scheduled issue for a summer break and resume publication the weekend of July 25-26.

If you happen to be away on vacation this summer and want to find a church nearby, there is an easy way. MassTimes.org is a ministry for traveling Catholics. Look up a church and available Mass times by city, zip code or phone number.

Jason Koshinski is editor of *FaithLife*. Contact him at JKoshinski@ErieRCD.org or 814.824.1171.

Few surprises, but some glimmers of hope in new U.S. church statistics

STATISTICS, from page 1

experienced a small increase in the 2009 book. There were more students in Catholic colleges and universities; in private, Catholic-run high schools and elementary schools; and in high school religious education programs.

And at 68.1 million, an increase of nearly 1 million over the 2008 directory, Catholics continue to make up 22 percent of the U.S. population.

The more than 2,100-page Official Catholic Directory, also known as the Kenedy directory after its New Jersey publishers' imprint, P.J. Kenedy and Sons, was published June 17. Catholic News Service obtained an advance copy of the statistical summary compiled from annual reports provided by the nation's 209 dioceses and archdioceses.

The 2009 Kenedy directory shows a total U.S. Catholic population of 68,115,001, compared to 67,117,016 the year before. But because the U.S. population rose from 305.2 million to 307.6 million during that time, the percentage of Catholics in the U.S. population was steady at 22 percent.

NUMBER OF CATHOLICS, CLERGY up in U.S. over past year.

	2008	2009	
Catholics	67 million	68 million	+1 million
Priests	41,406	41,489	+83
Deacons	16,408	16,935	+527
Seminarians	5,029	4,973	-56

Source: Kenedy Directory

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In a time of economic downturn, it was not surprising to see a rise of 1.2 million in the number of people assisted by Catholic charitable agencies, from just under 26 million in the 2008 directory to 27.2 million the next year.

The number of patients served in Catholic hospitals went up nearly 1.5 million, from 83.8 million last year to 85.3 million in 2009. The 562 Catholic hospitals in the 2009 tally were five more than the 557 counted in the 2008 directory, but the number of Catholic-run health care centers — including ancillary care systems, medical centers, sanatoriums and hospices — declined from 417 to 373. Another 6.7 million patients were served in those centers, according to the 2009

book, a drop of more than half a million from the 7.3 million patients served the previous year.

In key sacramental moments, according to the directory:

■ There were 191,265 church-recognized marriages in the year ending Jan. 1, 2009, more than 5,000 fewer than the year before.

■ Confirmations numbered more than 622,000, down about 8,500 from the previous year.

■ First Communions numbered nearly 822,000, a drop of about 1,300.

■ Infant baptisms totaled more than 887,000, down by almost 16,000.

■ Adult baptisms and receptions into full communion totaled more than 124,000, a decline of more than 12,000 from the previous year.

FEWER SACRAMENTS in U.S. churches over past year.

	2008	2009	
Infant Baptisms	902,841	887,145	-15,696
Adult Baptisms	49,415	42,629	-6,786
Received into Full Communion	87,363	81,775	-5,588
First Communions	823,236	821,917	-1,319
Confirmations	631,195	622,641	-8,554
Marriages	196,420	191,265	-5,155

Source: Kenedy Directory

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Even though 91 new parishes were opened in 2008, an increase of 34 over the year before, there was a net loss of 216 parishes because of closings or mergers, as the total decreased from 18,890 to 18,674.

The total number of priests in U.S. dioceses and religious orders was 41,489, an increase of 83 over the previous year. The increase was 89 for religious-order priests, offsetting a decrease of six for diocesan priests.

Permanent deacons went from 16,408 at the beginning of 2008 to 16,935 the next year, an increase of 527. The number of diocesan seminarians went up by 26 to 3,274, but the number studying for

the religious-order priesthood decreased by 82 to 1,699.

The number of brothers dropped by 135 to 4,905 at the beginning of 2009, while the number of sisters was down more than 2,300 to 60,715.

There was a mixed picture for Catholic education in the United States.

At the college level, there were 795,823 students in Catholic-run schools, up more than 1,500 from the year before. Also showing increases were the student bodies at private Catholic high schools — up more than 6,500 to 312,727 — and private elementary schools, which went up more than 1,600 to 90,501.

But the student populations at diocesan- and parish-run Catholic schools continued to decline. There were 361,653 students at those high schools, a drop of nearly 13,000, while the number attending diocesan or parish elementary schools was 1,518,886, a decrease of more than 57,000.

The number of diocesan and parish elementary schools fell by nearly 500 to 5,772, while the number of private Catholic elementary schools increased by five to 361. Diocesan and parish high schools were down by 18 to 751, while private Catholic high schools increased by seven to 590.

Enrollment by public school students in high school religious education classes grew by more than 33,000 to more than 722,000, but the number of elementary school students attending such classes fell by more than 64,000 to under 3.1 million.

The faculty at Catholic schools was overwhelmingly made up of lay teachers, at nearly 168,000. There were 1,569 priests, 27 scholastics, 916 brothers and 5,169 sisters teaching in Catholic schools at the start of 2009.

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(Oct. 3-15) / Oct. 17-25 / The Holy Land: Oct. 5-15

PROMIXO TRAVEL

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Sunday, July 12, 2009
Our Lady of Mercy Church
837 Bartlett Road, Harborcreek

BBQ Chicken Dinner: Noon-5 pm, Takeouts: Noon-4 pm
Adults: \$8.00, ages 6-12: \$4.00, 5 and under: \$3.00
Raffles, Game tables, Chinese auction, Children's activities, Hand crafted items, Bake sale

SUMMER FEST '09

Catholic Services Appeal parish projects

The 2009 Catholic Services Appeal, "Of One Heart and Mind," supports the Erie Diocese in helping to provide health and social services, education, diocesan administration and pastoral services throughout the 13 counties of northwestern Pennsylvania.

While a portion of the financial goal for the appeal benefits the ministries of the diocese, parishes also benefit from the appeal. Each parish is assessed a financial goal. Once a parish reaches its assessment, every dollar pledged over that amount stays within the parish for local projects.

Here's a look at what some parishes are doing with their CSA overage funds:

Erie West Deanery

- All Saints, Waterford – Debt reduction
- Blessed Sacrament, Erie – Replace school roof
- Holy Cross, Fairview – Renovations to religious education wing
- Our Lady of Peace, Erie – School playground
- Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro – New audio/visual equipment for religious education program
- Sacred Heart, Erie – Install church fire protection system, repair sidewalks, new carillon system
- St. Francis Xavier, McKean – Church heating system, improve sound system, organ speakers
- St. George, Erie – No project listed
- St. John the Evangelist, Girard – No project listed
- St. Joseph/Bread of Life, Erie – Continuation of church restoration projects
- St. Jude the Apostle, Erie – Debt reduction
- St. Julia, Erie – Sacristy renovations
- St. Lawrence, Albion – Purchase music instruments, church sign, rectory repairs
- St. Stephen, Erie – Rectory interior
- St. Andrew, Erie – Deferred maintenance on rectory, new windows for east and north side of rectory, repair school roof
- St. Paul, Erie – Paint church, install canopy over main doors
- St. Peter Cathedral, Erie – Development person for school and church



Diocese looks at future of permanent deacons

Information nights to highlight restructured program, identify applicants

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

The Erie Diocese's Permanent Diaconate Formation Program, which has been on hiatus for several years, will begin again in the fall of 2010, at which time it will receive a limited number of applicants.

This summer, the program will be on the road throughout the diocese looking for men who feel called to the ministry of deacon.

Given the diocese's review of the National Directory of the Formation, Ministry and Life of the Permanent Deacon in the United States, a document put forth by the U.S. bishops, the program is getting some retooling.

"We intend to jumpstart the deacon program," said Msgr. Robert Smith, vicar general of the diocese and director of its Permanent Diaconate Formation Program. "Having paused in our

program to review where we've been and where we want to go in light of this document, we're going to start the program again in the fall of 2010."

A special report on the diocese's restructuring of its diaconate program is featured in the July/August issue *Faith* magazine.

Permanent Diaconate Formation Program information nights

- Wed., July 15 – St. Elizabeth, Smethport, at 6:30 p.m.
- Tues., July 21 – Ss. Cosmas and Damian, Punxsutawney, at 6:30 p.m.
- Mon., July 27 – Our Lady of the Lake, Edinboro, at 6:30 p.m.
- Wed., July 29 – Our Lady Queen of the Americas, Conneaut Lake, at 6:30 p.m.

zine.

In identifying needs of the diaconate program, Msgr. Smith said there are areas of the diocese where there are very few deacons or none at all.

"We're going to go to four locations to talk to prospective applicants who may feel called to diaconal ministry," Msgr. Smith said. "The thought is that those

in the surrounding areas, if interested, will come to one of the locations. One of our concerted efforts will be to identify diaconal couples in these areas."

Information nights will be held in July in Smethport, Punxsutawney, Edinboro and Conneaut Lake. Each evening will include



different with their life; it's a call from God to a ministry of charity and service."

Also, potential applicants who are married are urged and encouraged to attend one of the information nights with their wives, Msgr. Smith said.

"No one can enter or advance in the program without the consent of his spouse," Msgr. Smith said. "It's a call of the couple to ministry in the church. The wives play a very important part in their husband's formation and later in their ministry. And in many ways, diaconal ministry is a mutual calling of husband and wife."

National small community conference coming to diocese

NAPRC to hold annual event in Harborcreek July 23-25

By Jason Koshinski
FaithLife editor

HARBORCREEK — The National Alliance of Parishes Restructuring into Communities (NAPRC) will hold its annual conference in the Erie Diocese this summer.

Our Lady of Mercy Parish in Harborcreek has been tapped to host the July 23-25 gathering, which is expected to be attended by 200 people in the ministry of small church communities from across the country.

The theme for the conference is "New Wine in New Wine-skins: Bringing New Vision to the Church."

The conference will focus on small church communities, whole community catechesis and doing things differently, said Sister Nancy Fischer, SSI, director of community formation and lay minister training for the Erie Diocese.

Bill Huebsch, a nationally recognized speaker and author focusing on adult faith formation and whole community catechesis programs, will be the keynote speaker. Father Art Baranowski,

founder of NAPRC and pastor of St. Christopher Parish in Marysville, Mich., will also be presenting.

"It should be really exciting for those who are attending to have those two (Huebsch and Father Baranowski) in the same room," Sister Nancy said. "They're the best at what they do."

The three-day event will feature workshops, dialogue with speakers, panel discussions and roundtable discussions. The conference will conclude July 25 with a 6 p.m. Mass at Our Lady of Mercy celebrated by Bishop Donald Trautman followed by a social and banquet.

"To have something like this in our own backyard is amazing," Sister Nancy said. "Hopefully a good number of people from our diocese will be able to attend."

While there is a fee for the conference, parishes and individual can take advantage of available grants to help cover the cost. These funds were made available through the education endowment fund of The Catholic Foundation, Sister Nancy said.

Huebsch, who has written a number of books and is an adjunct faculty member at Loyola University of New Orleans and

NAPRC conference on small church communities July 23-25

Our Lady of Mercy, Harborcreek

For a complete conference schedule and registration form, visit www.naprc.faitweb.com/conference2009.htm.

Financial assistance for the NAPRC small church communities conference is available through the Erie Diocese's Lay Ministry Endowment Fund for anyone interested in attending. For details, contact Sister Nancy Fischer at NFischer@ErieRCD.org or 814.824.1217.



Bill Huebsch

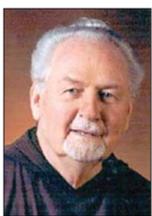
Briefly

Carmelite Days of Prayer with Father Angelus Shaughnessy – July 11-16

ERIE – The annual Carmelite Days of Prayer will be held July 11-16 at Carmel of the Holy Family Monastery, 510 East Gore Road, Erie. The morning service, each day at 8:30 a.m., consists of Mass, homily and prayers. The evening service, daily at 7:30 p.m., consists of homily, prayers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The featured speaker this year will once again be Father Angelus Shaughnessy, OFM. All are welcome.

The feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel is July 16.



Father Angelus Shaughnessy

Hope & Power Tour continues in St. Marys

The Hope & Power Tour 2009-10 continues with its next stop in St. Marys July 29.

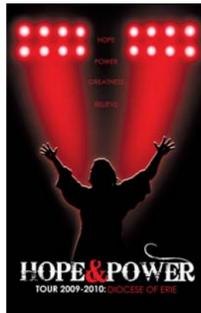
The Erie Diocese's Youth and Young Adult Ministry is sponsoring a year-long tour for teens throughout the diocese, with monthly stops hitting all areas.

What is the Hope & Power Tour? It is a 3-hour teen (grades 9-12) mini retreat. This event is intended to be a powerful and lively presentation of the Gospel.

Evenings will include exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, talks on conversion, confession and examination of conscience, skits performed by local youth, time for confession, praise and worship, Mass and fellowship.

The next three stops on the tour include:

- July 29 - St. Joseph Monastery, St. Marys, 7-10 p.m.
- Aug. 15 - Good Shepherd, West Middlesex, 7-10 p.m.
- Sept. 20 - St. Hippolyte, Guys Mills, 5-8 p.m.



Hoffman, Miller ordained to the priesthood

PRIESTS, from page 1

the candidates expressed their intentions to be faithful to the bishop, the worship life of the church, the Gospel and to Christ. After a promise of obedience, the candidates reclined face down on the sanctuary floor while the congregation sang the litany of saints. This posture symbolizes their unworthiness for the gift of priesthood and their total abandonment and trust in God.

Bishop Trautman then conferred holy orders on the candidates through laying on of hands and the prayer of consecration.



Newly ordained Fathers Daniel Hoffman (left) and John Miller process down the main aisle after their ordination Mass June 12 at St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

committed fashion.

After Communion, Bishop Trautman gave a few remarks from the pulpit. He thanked the Hoffman and Miller families, as well as the many priests, teachers and mentors for helping in the formation of the newly ordained priests. He then announced where the new priests would be assigned as parochial vicars.

Father Daniel Hoffman was assigned to St. Michael Parish in Greenville, and Father John Miller was assigned to St. Peter Cathedral in Erie.

The new priests celebrated their first Masses the following day at Carmel of the Holy Family Monastery in Erie, with Father Hoffman celebrating a 10 a.m. Mass June 13 and Father Miller at 11:30 a.m. They also offered a Mass of Thanksgiving June 14. Father Hoffman offered the noon Mass at his home parish of Our Lady of Peace, Erie, and Father Miller offered the 11:30 a.m. Mass at his home parish of St. Michael, Greenville.

Father Hoffman will also celebrate the 10 a.m. Mass on June 21 at Queen of the World in St. Marys, where he served as a deacon. Father Miller will offer the 5:30 p.m. Mass June 20 at Notre Dame in Hermitage, where he served his diaconate assignment.

Sponsoring priests then vested the new priests with a stole and chasuble; Father Tom Brooks vested Father Hoffman, and Msgr. Andrew Karg vested Father Miller.

The hands of the newly or-

dain were anointed with sacred chrism, fulfilling the practice of the Old Testament in setting a person apart for sacred duties and enabling them to carry out their sacramental ministry in a totally

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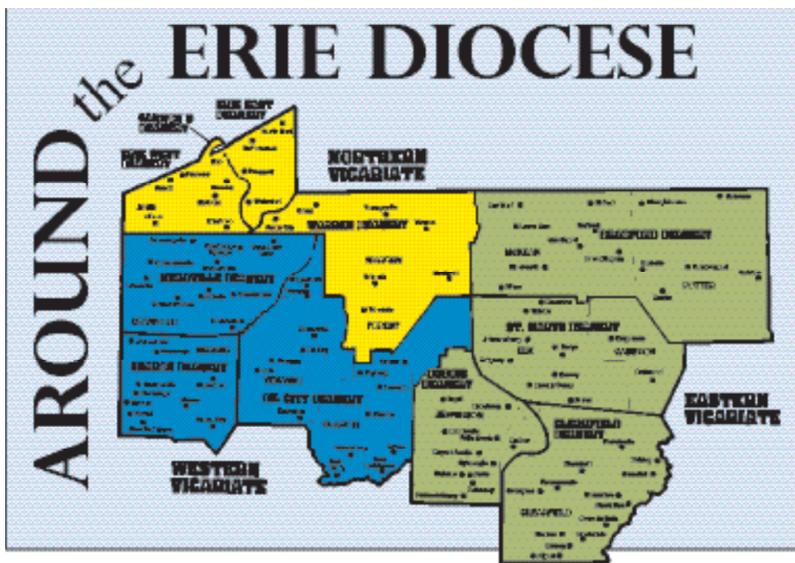
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Visit ErieRCD.org/faithlife.asp to download quick and easy **photo tips** on a wallet-size card.



Earth Day at DuBois Central Catholic helps animals

DUBOIS — For the past 12 years, DuBois Central Catholic School Pre-K through 5th grades have held an annual Earth Day food and supply drive for area animal shelters. This year in April and May, students collected many requested items and \$227 in cash for three shelters in the DuBois area: Gateway Humane Society, Clearfield County SPCA and Animal Friends of Elk and Cameron counties.

Pictured from left to right are several of Janice Kness' art students: (front row) Gabriella Delzangle, Gweneth Vida, Aiden McLaughlin, Sherry Anderson, Makenzie Park, (back row) Jeremy Ayrault, Sarah Sommers, Madison Nasuti, Antonio Willar and Maggie Schmader.



MPS students celebrate heritage with grandparents

ERIE — After much research and many interviews with living ancestors, the freshmen students in Danielle Schoenfeldt's theology class at Mercyhurst Prep recently presented their final projects at the school.

Students studied the ancestral line of Jesus and were assigned to trace their own heritage. One of their term projects included conducting interviews with family members and documenting the information in whatever manner they chose such as posters or books. They invited their grandparents to see and hear the final project that they contributed to in numerous ways.

Activities included a prayer service, a reception, time to look at ancestral heritage story boards and a talent show.

Barbara Miller Sipple, a Mercyhurst Seminary/Preparatory School alumna, contributed to the ancestral heritage board for her granddaughter, Ali Miller, a freshman at Mercyhurst Prep.



Confirmation 'alumni' meet with bishop in Sharon

SHARON — Bishop Donald Trautman met with student eucharistic ministers who he confirmed over the last three years before celebrating the confirmation liturgy this year at St. Joseph Parish in Sharon. The bishop commended them for being trained for this ministry after they were confirmed. Students pictured are, from left to right, Anne Sommerfeld and Liza Catania (Kennedy Catholic High School), Chris Pacsi (Duquesne University), Danielle Zachar (Kennedy Catholic), Bill DeMarco (Gannon University) and Vince Kopen (Hickory High School).



Holy Name Society in Farrell names Man of the Year

FARRELL — Tony DeMartinis was recently named Holy Name Society Man of the Year at a Mass and communion breakfast at Our Lady of Fatima-St. Ann Parish in Farrell.

Pictured from left to right are Father Donald Berdis, pastor; Angelo Settle, president; Tony DeMartinis, honoree; and Father Mike DeMartinis, nephew of the honoree, celebrant and featured speaker at the breakfast with 250 in attendance.

Tony DeMartinis is past president of the Holy Name Society and is a member of the Knights of Columbus Our Lady of the Valley Council 4003 where he serves as grand knight. He is also the past Faithful Navigator in the 4th degree assembly.

He is a member of To Encounter Christ (TEC), the diocesan Cursillo movement and for the last five years has been involved in Eucharistic adoration on Thursday mornings from midnight until 1 a.m.

DeMartinis attended St. Ann School in Farrell and graduated from Farrell High School. After attending Gannon University, he was drafted into the U.S. Army where he served as a military police officer for two years.

He is a past member of the Farrell Area School Board, where he served as president. Under his tenure, all school buildings were put under one roof.

He is a former member of Farrell City Council.

In 2005, he retired after 15 years from the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections as an officer at SCI Albion.

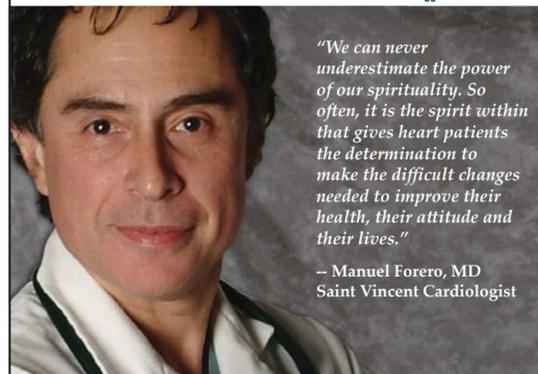


Mother's Day at St. Luke, Youngsville

YOUNGVILLE — More than 150 people attended the annual Mother's Day breakfast at St. Luke Parish, Youngsville, on May 10 sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and other men of the parish. Each mother who attended and is a member of the parish received a hand-made silk corsage and a rose petal rosary with porcelain case.



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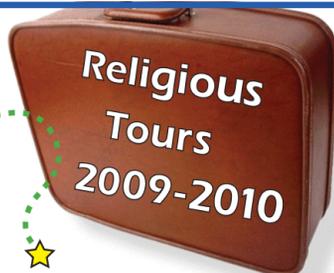
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